



## News Release

For Immediate Release

Contact: Joe DiLaura 317/232-3396

Robert Shula 317/234-0263

### **IDWD Awards Grants to Fifteen Schools for Robotics Programs**

INDIANAPOLIS (Jan. 25, 2006) -- The Indiana Department of Workforce Development (IDWD) announced today that fifteen Indiana high schools or postsecondary consortia are receiving grants totaling \$274,520 that will be used to fund Robotics programs and boost the schools' pre-engineering programs.

"The robotics programs we are funding today will not only help our schools' pre-engineering efforts, but will help those students involved develop their science, technology, entrepreneurship and math skills that will be so important as they prepare for the world of work in the 21<sup>st</sup> century," said Ron Stiver, Commissioner of the Department of Workforce Development. "Skills such as brainstorming, real-world teamwork, dedicated mentoring, project timelines and meeting deadlines are taking on new importance as our state continues its transformation to a knowledge-based economy."

"We're hoping to help inspire the high-tech entrepreneurs of tomorrow with programs such as this," Stiver added.

Schools applied for the grants under two categories: robotics and an entrepreneurial school-based enterprise (SBE) pilot program to support robotics.

Schools or consortia receiving grants and the amount of each grant:

Greenfield Central High School	\$10,000
McKenzie Area Career Center/MSD Lawrence Twp	\$30,000
New Prairie High School/New Carlisle	\$10,000
Walker Career Center/Warren Central High School	\$10,000
Center Grove High School	\$4,759
Jasper High School	\$30,000
Perry Meridian High School	\$10,000
Columbus Area Career Connection	\$30,000
Southport High School	\$10,000
Jefferson High School Lafayette	\$30,000
Hamilton Southeastern High School	\$29,994
New Haven High School	\$20,000
Portage High School	\$20,000

Ivy Tech Community College, Sellersburg  
Pike High School

\$19,950  
\$9,818

As the use of robots in numerous industries has grown in the last ten years, high school robotics programs are springing up as well, growing across Indiana as they provide a fertile training ground for the engineers of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Regional and national robotics competitions help develop such skills as teamwork, innovation, and intuition.

The grants announced today were funded under the federal Carl D. Perkins Technical and Vocational Act of 1998, and awarded under the IDWD's Career Majors program. The grants focus on the curriculum areas of science, technology, entrepreneurship and math, or STEM. The Career Majors program connects what students learn in school with their future opportunities through rigorous academics, career pathways, curriculum integration and articulation agreements.

For more information on the Indiana Career Majors initiative, visit the website at [http://www.in.gov/dwd/partners/tech\\_ed\\_career\\_majors.html](http://www.in.gov/dwd/partners/tech_ed_career_majors.html) or contact Terri Schulz at 317-233-5663 or [tschulz@dwd.in.gov](mailto:tschulz@dwd.in.gov).